FISCAL NOTE

SB 3844 - HB 3918

March 29, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Expands the jurisdiction of municipal courts to include all Class C misdemeanors, violations of state law concerning rules of the road, driving without a license, underage consumption and possession of alcohol, violations of financial responsibility law, and violations of the handicapped parking law. Authorizes municipal courts to retain a collection agent or collection service to collect fines, costs, and fees that have not been collected within 60 days of a judgment. Such fee may not exceed 40% of all amounts due for employment of a collection service. Authorizes private citizens to initiate municipal citations and provides the guidelines for such a procedure.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Exceeds \$200,000/Permissive

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000/Permissive

Assumptions:

- A not significant increase in local government revenues and expenditures related to increased caseload for municipal courts. It is estimated that such increase can be absorbed utilizing existing resources.
- An increase in local government revenues from an increase in the collection rate on overdue fines, costs, and violations by using a collection agency and due to amounts collected from defendants for employment of a collection service. Such increases are estimated to exceed \$200,000 statewide and are permissive to local governments.
- An increase in local government expenditures to contract with a collection service. Such increases are estimated to exceed \$100,000 statewide and are permissive to local governments.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director